

MINUTES
of a meeting of the Governance Board
17 February 2026
(13:30-15:15)
At St James House

Present:

Anne-Marie Dean, Chairman
Ian Buckmaster, Company Secretary
Ron Wright, Non-Executive Director
Jenny Douglass, Community Support Officer

Carol Dennis, Jenny Gregory, Dawn Ladbrook, Di Old, Val Perry, Members

1 Welcome and apologies

All members were present.

2 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations.

3 Minutes of meetings held 20 January and 3 February 2026

The minutes of the meetings held on 20 January and 3 February 2026 (including confidential business, which had not been published) were agreed as correct records and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

4 Finance Report

(a) January

The report was submitted.

Expenditure for the month had been £8,312, marginally below the current monthly average, and bringing the average monthly spend this year to £8,485.

Bank balances at the end of the month were noted.

£7,400 had been transferred from the reserves (Savings) account on 2 February, to fund expected expenditure in that month. If spending were higher than expected, a further transfer would be made in month.

(b) Employment Allowance

The rebate of employer's National Insurance Contributions (NICs) had not yet been exhausted and no payment was due for January. Some payment to HMRC would be due in March.

5 Havering Place-based Partnership (HPbP)

Because of the structural changes at NHS North East London, the current HPbP Board was also to be restructured and, with local elections also due in May, it was unlikely that the Board would be meeting again for several months. The current team was likely by then to have been dispersed as staff – particularly in the NHS moved to other roles, elsewhere.

In the meantime, the introduction of Neighbourhood-based services was proceeding apace, although some of the integration that had been achieved was being lost in that process. There would however be opportunities in the new structure to address issues such as medical services for care homes and dealing with “frequent flyer” attendances at A&E/UTCs.

In the new structure, each of the five new Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs) would concentrate on specific areas of concern, on behalf of the whole borough.

6 NHS North East London/North East London Health and Care Partnership

The ICB continued to be in a state of some flux. No announcement had yet been made about the future staffing arrangements, although some moves were already in hand (see minute 5 above).

Financially, the ICB and ICS remained in significant deficit.

7 Next meeting

The next meeting would be on 17 March 2026, at the office.

8 Havering Contract for provision of Healthwatch Services

The Board held a further, brief confidential discussion of matters relating to the Council's contract for the provision of Healthwatch Services from 1 April 2026. It was noted that Ms Dean, Ms Douglass and Mr Buckmaster had now been invited to meet representatives of MIND later in the week of the meeting.

_____ Chairman